

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Wu, J-P et al) Art Unit : 1624
Serial No. : To Be Accorded) Examiner : Sudhaker B. PATEL
Conf. No. : To Be Accorded
Filed : 09/25/2003
For : Small Molecules Useful In The Treatment Of Inflammatory Disease
Docket No. : 9/162-2-D1

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 25, 2003

Petition to Suspend Action Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(a)

Sir:

This Petition to Suspend Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(a) ("the Petition") is submitted before the issuance of the first Official Office Action in the above divisional application. Applicant requests that the Office suspend prosecution in this divisional application for six months.

Applicants request such suspension of action in order to determine which invention to pursue in this application from the inventions identified in the restriction requirement in the grandparent application (Appln. No. 09/604,312, filed on June 27, 2000). Applicants need this further time to conduct the studies necessary to make this determination and Applicants maintain that this need for time therefore constitutes good and sufficient cause for the grant of this suspension. Moreover, USPTO resources will be conserved if Applicants can decide which invention should be pursued in this application prior to the first Office Action herein.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(a), applicants hereby authorize that the fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h) in connection with this Petition be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2955. This petition fee is paid by the enclosed Fee Transmittal Form (Form PTO/SB/17). Furthermore, if it is determined that any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are due in connection with this Petition, authorization is hereby given to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 02-2955.

Respectfully submitted,



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